

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
Amendment of Part 90 of the)
Commission's Rules to Adopt)
Regulations for Automatic Vehicle)
Monitoring Systems)

PR Docket No. 93-61

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

To: The Commission

**COMMENTS ON PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION
AND REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION**

The Alarm Industry Communications Committee (AICC), by its attorney, submits the following comments on the petition for partial reconsideration filed by the American Radio Relay League, Incorporated (ARRL). In connection with these comments, AICC requests clarification of the procedures for protecting Part 15 users under the new rules.

ARRL has requested the Commission to reconsider and reverse its definition of harmful interference adopted in this proceeding as it would apply to operation in the Amateur Radio Service. ARRL has noted that the same harmful interference standard would apply to Amateur Service operations as to operations under Part 15 of the Commission's Rules.

AICC's members operate Part 15 devices, principally for security and alarm systems. AICC is sympathetic to ARRL's concern. AICC also believes that further consideration should be given to the method of enforcement of the harmful interference standards

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adopted by the Commission in this proceeding. AICC supported the proposals of the Part 15 Coalition in this proceeding.

Specifically, the Commission has proposed the following requirements to reduce the possibility of harmful interference between LAS systems and Part 15 users, and to prevent displacement of Part 15 users by LAS licensees:

1. Protection of Part 15 operations by LAS systems.

Multilateration LAS licenses will be conditioned upon the licensee's ability to demonstrate, through actual field tests, that their systems do not cause unacceptable levels of interference to Part 15 devices.

2. Protection of LAS Systems from Part 15 operations. Part 15 operations may not cause harmful interference to LAS systems. By definition, a Part 15 device will not be causing harmful interference if it operates in accordance with Part 15 and at least one of the following conditions are met:

(a) it is a Part 15 field disturbance sensor operating under Section 15.245 of the rules and is not operating in the 904-909.750 or 919.750-928.000 MHz sub-bands; or

(b) it does not employ an outdoor antenna; or

(c) if it does employ an outdoor antenna, then if

(1) the directional gain of the antenna does not exceed 6 dBi, or if the directional gain of the antenna exceeds 6 dBi, it reduces its transmitter output power below 1 watt by the proportional amount that the directional gain of the antenna exceeds 6 dBi; and

(2) either

(A) the antenna is 5 meters or less in height above ground; or

(B) the antenna is more than 5 meters in height above ground but less than or equal to 15 meters in height above ground and either:

(i) adjusts its transmitter output power below 1 watt by $20 \log (h/5)$ dB, where h is the height above ground of the antenna in meters; or

(ii) is providing the final link for communication of entities eligible in the Public Safety or Special Emergency Radio Services.

While these interference standards will help to prevent harmful interference between LAS and Part 15 devices, AICC believes that, because of the widespread use of Part 15 devices and the fact that it would be almost impossible to determine where these devices are actually used in any area until harmful interference manifests itself, additional measures are necessary to make the standard enforceable.

Accordingly, AICC requests the Commission to establish a method for Part 15 users to determine that an LAS system proposes to operate in the area. AICC suggests that this can best be accomplished by placing LAS applications on an FCC Public Notice so that interested Part 15 users would be aware of the filing of the applications. The affected users can then contact the applicant to discuss the proposed operation and to establish meaningful tests to ensure that harmful interference will not occur, or that it will be minimized to the extent possible.

Alternatively, the Commission should require LAS applicants to provide copies of their applications to a joint industry group, such as the Part 15 Coalition, who would then be able to notify potential affected Part 15 users of the filing of the application, perhaps through member equipment manufacturers. These manufacturers could then in turn advise their Part 15 customers that an LAS system applicant proposes to establish operations in

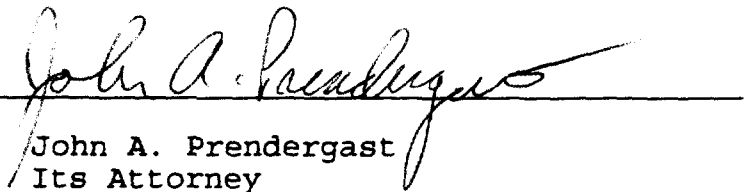
a particular area, so that testing could be facilitated. In the absence of one of these simple measures, it is respectfully submitted that enforcement of the important protections accorded to Part 15 users will be unduly burdensome.

Finally, AICC notes that while the Commission has specified what does not constitute harmful interference with respect to Part 15 users as their operations would impact LAS systems, there is no clear definition of what constitutes harmful interference from an LAS system to a Part 15 user. Without such definition, the requirement to conduct tests is meaningless. With respect to the operation of Part 15 alarm signalling devices, AICC suggests that the Commission define harmful interference as any interference that blocks the receipt of an alarm signal.

Respectfully submitted,

The Alarm Industry Communications Committee

By


John A. Prendergast
Its Attorney

Blooston, Mordkofsky, Jackson & Dickens
2120 L Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20037
(202) 659-0830
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SERVICE LIST

Christopher D. Imlay
Booth, Feret & Imlay
Attorneys for American Radio
Relay Leage, Inc.
1233 20th Street, N.W.
Suite 204
Washington, D.C. 20036

Edwin N. Lavergne
Ginsburg, Feldman & Bress
Attorneys for Ademco Corp.
1250 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Jack T. Taylor
Attorney for
The Part 15 Coalition
9215 Ranchero Drive
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Stanley M. Gorinson
Preson, Gates, Ellis,
& Rouvelas Meeds
Attorneys for North American Teletrac and
Location Technologies, Inc.
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20006-4759